IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 11, 12-15, and 20, without prejudice.

1.   (ORIGINAL) A yield percentage managing method for managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer, comprising:

correcting or updating the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material.

2.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a step to obtain an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

3.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

a first calculation step to calculate an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term from $P = M + N - L$, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material;

a second calculation step to calculate a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term from $Q = K/Yr$, using the processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage the target product; and

a correction step to obtain a compared result by comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and to automatically correct or update the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

4.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said correction step monitors a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and corrects or updates the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition (100% - d%) < (P/Q) < (100% + d%) of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

5.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the processed amount K is generated by a measuring apparatus based on measurement information which is obtained by measuring the target processed product by the measuring apparatus.

6.   (ORIGINAL) A yield percentage managing apparatus for managing a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to at least one target raw material by use of a computer, comprising:
        a control unit to correct or update the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material.

7.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein said control unit includes means for obtaining an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

8.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, comprising:
        a first calculation unit to calculate an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term from P = M + N - L, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material; and
        a second calculation unit to calculate a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term from Q = K/Yr, using the processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage the target product,
        wherein said control unit includes correction means for obtaining a compared result by

comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and for automatically correcting or updating the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

9.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said correction means monitors a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and corrects or updates the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition (100% - d%) < (P/Q) < (100% + d%) of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

10.   (ORIGINAL) The yield percentage managing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the processed amount K is generated by a measuring apparatus which is coupled to the yield percentage managing apparatus based on measurement information which is obtained by measuring the target processed product by the measuring apparatus, and input to said control unit from the measuring apparatus.

11.   (CANCELLED)

12.   (CANCELLED)

13.   (CANCELLED)

14.   (CANCELLED)

15.   (CANCELLED)

16.   (ORIGINAL) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to manage a yield percentage of a target processed product with respect to a target raw material, said program comprising:

a procedure causing the computer to correct or update the yield percentage based on a processed amount K which indicates a total number or weight of target items of the target processed product processed from the target raw material.

17.   (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said program further comprises:

a procedure causing the computer to obtain an amount of the yield percentage to be corrected or updated, based on an initial value of the yield percentage and the processed amount K.

18.   (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein said program comprises:

a first calculation procedure causing the computer to calculate an amount P of the target raw material used during a present term from $P = M + N - L$, where M denotes an amount of initial stock of the target raw material, N denotes a buying amount of the target raw material, and L denotes an amount of final stock of the target raw material;

a second calculation procedure causing the computer to calculate a theoretical value Q of the amount of the target raw material used during the present term from $Q = K/Yr$, using the processed amount K and an initial value Yr of the yield percentage the target product; and

a correction procedure causing the computer to obtain a compared result by comparing the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and to automatically correct or update the initial value Yr depending on an error of the compared result.

19.   (ORIGINAL) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said correction procedure causes the computer to monitor a ratio P/Q of the amount P of the target raw material used and the theoretical value Q, and to correct or update the initial value Yr (%) so as to satisfy a condition $(100\% - d\%) < (P/Q) < (100\% + d\%)$ of a tolerable range if the ratio P/Q does not satisfy the condition, where d% denotes a tolerance index.

20.   (CANCELLED)